

Patent
Attorney Docket No. 53394.000444

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for attaching a mechanical fastener to an absorbent article comprising the steps
2 of:
 - 3 a) providing said absorbent article;
 - 4 b) providing said mechanical fastener;
 - 5 c) applying a slow-crystallizing hot melt adhesive to said absorbent article in a target
6 area; and
 - 7 d) attaching said mechanical fastener to said absorbent article in the target area with
8 slow-crystallizing hot melt adhesive under conditions sufficient to result in a
9 mechanical fastener/absorbent article bond static shear strength of at least about
10 50 min/kg.
- 1 2. The method according to claim 1 wherein said mechanical fastener/absorbent article bond
2 static shear strength is at least about 200 min/kg.
- 1 3. The method according to claim 1 wherein said absorbent article comprises an ear tab, an
2 elastomer substrate attached to said ear tab, and a film substrate attached to said
3 elastomer substrate, wherein said target area with slow-crystallizing hot melt adhesive is
4 located on said film substrate.
- 1 4. The method according to claim 3 wherein said elastomer substrate is selected from the
2 group consisting of a nonwoven and a laminate structure.
- 1 5. The method according to claim 1 wherein said slow-crystallizing hot melt adhesive is
2 applied to the target area of said absorbent article at a temperature below about 325 °F.

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- 1 6. The method according to claim 1 wherein said slow-crystallizing hot melt adhesive is
2 applied to the target area of said absorbent article using a process selected from the group
3 consisting of slot coating, solid shim coating, comb shim coating, and spray-on
4 techniques.
- 1 7. The method according to claim 1 wherein said slow-crystallizing hot melt adhesive is
2 applied to the target area of said absorbent article in an amount less than about 0.045
3 grams/target area.
- 1 8. An absorbent article comprising:
2 a) a liquid pervious topsheet;
3 b) a liquid impervious backsheet joined to said topsheet;
4 c) an absorbent core positioned between said topsheet and said backsheet; and
5 d) at least one mechanical fastener positioned so as to secure the absorbent article to
6 an intended user, wherein the mechanical fastener is attached to said absorbent
7 article using a slow-crystallizing hot melt adhesive under conditions sufficient to
8 result in a mechanical fastener/absorbent article bond static shear strength of at
9 least about 50 min/kg.
- 1 9. The absorbent article of claim 8 further comprising:
2 a) an ear tab attached to said backsheet;
3 b) an elastomer substrate attached to said ear tab; and
4 c) a film substrate attached to said elastomer substrate, wherein said mechanical
5 fastener is attached to said film substrate.

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- 1 10. The absorbent article of claim 8 wherein said mechanical fastener is a hook-type fastener
2 tab.